

IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed as being new and therefore desired to be protected by letters patent of the United States is as follows:

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1. A pontic assembly for the manufacture of dental bridges, said assembly comprising:

a pair of copings defining a space therebetween; and
10 an enforcement bar connecting said copings.

2. The pontic assembly as described in claim 1 wherein said enforcement bar is covered with wax.

15 3. The pontic assembly as described in claim 1 wherein said enforcement bar is made of plastic.

4. The pontic assembly as described in claim 1 wherein said enforcement bar is made of metal.

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5. The pontic assembly as described in claim 4 further comprising a bar holder attached to said enforcement bar; said bar holder being made of a material which will not melt during burn-out stage of the casting process; said bar

holder having a clamp portion for gripping onto said enforcement bar.

6. The pontic assembly as described in claim 1 further
5 comprising at least one prefabricated pontic having a groove formed thereon for attachment to said enforcement bar.

7. The pontic assembly as described in claim 1 wherein
10 said enforcement bar is threaded.

8. The pontic assembly as described in claim 7 wherein said enforcement bar is spirally threaded.

15 9. A pontic assembly for the manufacture of dental bridges, said assembly comprising:

a pair of wax copings formed from a model of an area of a person's teeth including a pair of abutment teeth; said copings defining a space therebetween; an enforcement
20 bar connecting said copings;

said enforcement bar covered with wax;
at least one prefabricated pontic having a groove formed thereon, said pontic attached at said groove to said enforcement bar.

10. The pontic assembly as described in claim 9 wherein said enforcement bar is made of plastic.

5 11. The pontic assembly as described in claim 9 wherein said enforcement bar is made of metal.

12. The pontic assembly as described in claim 11 further comprising a bar holder attached to said enforcement bar;
10 said bar holder being made of a material which will not melt during the burn-out stage of the casting process; said bar holder having a clamp portion for gripping onto said enforcement bar.

15 13. The pontic assembly as described in claim 9 wherein said enforcement bar is threaded.

14. The pontic assembly as described in claim 13 wherein said enforcement bar is spirally threaded.

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15. An enforcement bar for use in a pontic assembly for the manufacture of dental bridges, said pontic assembly having a pair of wax copings formed from a model of an area of a person's teeth including a pair of abutment teeth,

said wax copings defining a space therebetween, said enforcement bar comprising:

spiral threading disposed throughout the surface of said enforcement bar; and,

5 said enforcement bar having a predetermined size and shape for connecting said copings.

16. The enforcement bar as described in claim 15 wherein said enforcement bar further comprises at least one
10 prefabricated pontic having a groove formed thereon, said pontic attached at said groove to said enforcement bar.

17. The enforcement bar as described in claim 15 wherein said enforcement bar is covered with at least a layer of
15 wax.

18. The enforcement bar as described in claim 15 wherein said enforcement bar is made of plastic.

20 19. The enforcement bar as described in claim 15 wherein said enforcement bar is made of metal.

20. The enforcement bar as described in claim 19 further comprising a bar holder attached to said enforcement bar;

said bar holder being made of a material which will not melt during the burn-out stage of the casting process; said bar holder having a clamp portion for gripping onto said enforcement bar.

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21. A wax pontic used in the formation of a pontic assembly for the manufacture of dental bridges, said pontic assembly having a pair of wax copings formed from a model of an area of a person's teeth including a pair of abutment teeth, said wax copings defining a space therebetween and
10 connected by an enforcement bar, said pontic comprising:

a groove formed thereon sized and shaped for connection of said pontic at said groove onto said enforcement bar;

15 said pontic having a predetermined size and shape of a tooth.

22. A method of making a pontic assembly for the making of dental bridges comprising the steps of:

20 providing a model of an area of a person's teeth including a pair of abutment teeth;

layering said pair of abutment teeth with wax to form a pair of wax copings;

providing a threaded, wax coated enforcement bar;

connecting each end of said enforcement bar to a
corresponding wax coping;

removing said pontic assembly from said model;

investing said pontic assembly; and,

5 casting said pontic assembly.

23. In the method of claim 22:

providing at least one prefabricated wax pontic having
a groove formed thereon; and,

10 attaching said wax pontic at said groove onto said
enforcement bar prior to investing said pontic framework.

24. In the method of claim 22:

providing a threaded, wax coated enforcement bar made of a
15 metal;

providing a bar holder made of a material which will
not melt during the burn-out stage of the casting process;

attaching said bar holder onto said enforcement bar
prior to investing said pontic framework.

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